



**U.S. Department of
Transportation**

Office of the Secretary
of Transportation

GENERAL COUNSEL

400 Seventh St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

March 9, 2001

Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
Suite 700
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

Re: Ex Parte No. 582 (Sub-No. 1)

Dear Secretary Williams:

Pursuant to the decision in the above-referenced proceeding served on February 22, 2001, the U.S. Department of Transportation ("DOT") hereby gives notice of its current intent to participate in oral argument in this matter. DOT requests eight (8) minutes of speaking time, during which the undersigned now anticipates discussing proposed rules that relate to competition, post-merger rail services, railroad labor, environmental and community impacts, and transnational railroad networks.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Samuel Smith
Senior Trial Attorney

ENTERED
Office of the Secretary

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